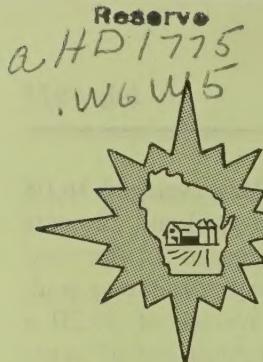


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WISCONSIN *Farm Reporter*

Vol. V, No. 9

PROCUREMENT SECTION
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July 1973

Cream of the News

Milk production in Wisconsin and the Nation during the first half of 1973 was down 2 percent from that period a year earlier.

Wholesale prices of cheddar cheese in 40 pound blocks increased from May to June at Wisconsin primary markets, the fourth consecutive monthly increase.

Production of red meat in Wisconsin's commercial slaughter plants during May was up 4 percent from a year ago as a 10 percent increase in beef output offset a 3 percent decline in pork production.

The prices received index for Wisconsin farm products gained 2 percent from mid-May to mid-June as livestock, poultry, and crop prices were higher.

Cold storage stocks of meat and butter in the Nation at the end of June were down from the previous year but cheese stocks were up slightly.

Cooperatively-owned dairy plants purchased slightly over half of the milk produced by Wisconsin farmers in 1972.

Cattle feeders in Wisconsin had 4 percent fewer cattle and calves on feed July 1 than a year ago but the 23 major feeding states were up 2 percent.

Milk prices received by Wisconsin farmers in June are expected to increase for the fourth straight month in contrast to the usual seasonal declines.

Prices of barrows and gilts at the St. Paul market averaged a record high of \$38.75 a hundredweight for June, up \$2.18 from May and \$12.10 above last year.

The number of hired workers on Wisconsin farms in June was down from a year ago while wage rates continued higher.

Production of butter in the Nation during May remained below last year but output of cheese increased.

Below normal rainfall in June and the first half of July created a need for moisture to keep Wisconsin's crops developing well after a late start due to planting delays this spring.

MILK PRODUCTION DOWN 2 PERCENT IN FIRST HALF OF 1973

Milk production in Wisconsin and the Nation during the first half of 1973 was down 2 percent from that period a year earlier. Of the major producing states, only California showed an increase in milk production from January through June compared with last year.

Wisconsin dairy herds produced 1,823 million pounds of milk in June, a decline of 5 percent from the previous year. Output of milk in Wisconsin has been below a year ago for all months of 1973 except in January. Last year in June production reached a record 1,924 million pounds.

Milk Production

Selected States	June 1972	June 1973	Jan.-June 1973	Change from last year	
				June	Jan.-June
Million pounds					
Wisconsin	1,924	1,823	10,240	- 5	- 2
Minnesota	918	910	5,332	- 1	- 2
Iowa	424	411	2,321	- 3	- 2
New York	957	901	5,162	- 6	- 6
Pennsylvania ..	612	586	3,459	- 4	- 5
California	906	911	5,258	+ 1	+ 2
Other states ...	5,242	5,164	29,506	- 1	- 2
United States ..	10,983	10,706	61,278	- 3	- 2

The decline in the State's milk production during 1973 has been due to a reduction in milk cow numbers and a lower output per cow. Milk cow numbers in June were down 1 percent from a year earlier while production per cow was 4 percent below June 1972. Wisconsin dairymen reported feeding an average of 10.9 pounds of grain and other concentrates per milk cow as of July 1. This was slightly under the average 11.2 pounds for June last year. Pasture condition in Wisconsin on July 1 averaged 94 percent of normal compared with 79 percent on July 1, 1972.

The Nation's milk production totaled 10,706 million pounds in June, about 3 percent below a year earlier. Production per cow and the number of milk cows for June were both down from last year.

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WISCONSIN STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE

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COOPERATIVES CONTINUE TO INCREASE MILK PURCHASES

Cooperatively-owned dairy plants purchased 50.6 percent of the milk produced by Wisconsin farmers in 1972. This was almost 1 percent more than purchased in 1971. In 1963 cooperatives had purchased just 41 percent of the milk produced on Wisconsin farms. There were 248 cooperatively-owned dairy plants purchasing milk in 1972, an increase of 6 from the previous year but 12 fewer than in 1963. Cooperatives accounted for a third of all dairy plants in 1972.

Slightly less than half of the producer milk sales were marketed by private dairy plants during 1972. Private plants had marketed 59 percent of Wisconsin's milk in 1963. A total of 499 privately-owned dairy plants marketed milk during 1972 compared with 505 in 1971 and 762 in 1963.

Milk Marketed by Farmers, Coop & Private Wisconsin, Selected Years

Grade of Milk	1963		1971		1972	
	Coop.	Private	Coop.	Private	Coop.	Private
Number of Plants						
Market	53	164	87	145	99	160
Manufacturing . . .	207	598	155	360	149	339
All	260	762	242	505	248	499
Percent of All Plants						
Market	24.4	75.6	37.5	62.5	38.2	61.8
Manufacturing . . .	25.7	74.3	30.1	69.9	30.5	69.5
All	25.4	74.6	32.4	67.6	33.2	66.8
Percent of Producer Sales						
Market	45.4	54.6	59.7	40.3	60.9	39.1
Manufacturing . . .	38.0	62.0	37.4	62.6	36.9	63.1
All	41.0	59.0	49.7	50.3	50.6	49.4

MILK PRICES CONTINUE UPWARD

Prices received by Wisconsin farmers for all milk sold during June are expected to average \$6.11 a hundredweight, up 3 cents from May. Milk prices have increased in each of the last four months in contrast to the usual seasonal declines. In the first six months of 1973, milk prices have risen 12 cents whereas in 1972 they declined 22 cents for that period. The June milk price of \$6.11 a hundredweight would be 81 cents above a year earlier.

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Prices received for all milk sold in May averaged \$6.08 a hundredweight, a gain of 2 cents from April and 72 cents higher than May 1972. Milkfat content averaged 3.68 percent in May, the same as a year earlier. Farmers producing milk for the Grade A market received an average of \$6.20 a hundredweight in May, up 3 cents from April and 67 cents above last year. Manufacturing grade milk averaged \$5.93 a hundredweight for May, an increase of 2 cents from the previous month and 78 cents more than May 1972. The price spread between market and manufacturing grade milk was 27 cents in May compared with 38 cents for that month last year.

Milk Prices 1/

Selected States	April 1973		May price per cwt.			June 1973 price per cwt. 2/
	Average test	Price per cwt.	1972	1973	73/72 change	
	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars
Milk for all uses						
Wisconsin	3.71	6.06	5.36	6.08	+ 13	6.11
Minnesota	3.57	5.67	5.04	5.70	+ 13	5.70
Iowa	3.66	5.88	5.20	5.85	+ 13	5.80
New York	3.57	6.35	5.65	6.30	+ 12	6.30
California	3.58	5.95	5.44	5.80	+ 7	5.70
United States	3.65	6.40	5.79	6.37	+ 10	6.34
Wisconsin utilization						
Market milk	3.71	6.17	5.53	6.20	+ 12	xxx
Manufacturing milk	3.70	5.91	5.15	5.93	+ 15	xxx
Creameries	3.68	5.86	5.12	5.86	+ 14	xxx
Cheese factories	3.70	5.92	5.16	5.94	+ 15	xxx
Varied prod. plants	3.70	5.88	5.13	5.89	+ 15	xxx

1/Preliminary average buying prices received for milk of average test. They differ from basic buying prices which are for 3.5% milk. 2/Based on preliminary information for milk of average test.

Wisconsin 3.5 Test Milk Prices 1/

Utilization	May 1972	April 1973	May 1973 2/	Change from last year
				Dollars per cwt.
				Percent
Milk for all uses	5.10	5.72	5.78	+ 13
Market milk	5.25	5.82	5.90	+ 12
Manufacturing milk	4.91	5.59	5.67	+ 15
Creameries	4.88	5.57	5.59	+ 15
American cheese plants	4.90	5.60	5.65	+ 15
Varied products plants	4.99	5.56	5.59	+ 12
Federal Order Markets				
Chicago Regional Base Zone	5.54	6.13	6.19	+ 12

1/Computed equivalents. 2/Preliminary.

GRADE A MILK MARKETINGS CONTINUE HIGHER IN 1972

Marketings of Grade A milk by Wisconsin farmers in 1972 increased for the sixth consecutive year. A total of 11,297 million pounds of Grade A milk were marketed in Wisconsin during 1972, up 10 percent from a year earlier. Grade A marketings accounted for 59 percent of all milk sold in 1972 compared with 56 percent in 1971. Of the Grade A milk sold by Wisconsin farmers in 1972, federal handlers received about 91 percent. The remaining 9 percent went to quality handlers which includes plants regulated by State or Municipal Boards of Health and milk sold directly to consumers.

Sales of manufacturing grade milk amounted to 7,782 million pounds in 1972, a decline of more than 3 percent from the previous year. Manufacturing grade milk marketings accounted for 41 percent of the total milk sold in 1972 com-

pared with 44 percent a year earlier. Ten years ago manufacturing grade milk represented nearly 60 percent of the total sales. Cheese factories took 85 percent of the manufacturing grade milk sold in 1972. Plants making a variety of dairy

products utilized 10 percent of the 1972 manufacturing grade milk while only 5 percent went to creameries.

Wisconsin farmers sold a record 19 billion pounds of milk during 1972, an increase of 4 percent from 1971.

Disposition of Milk Sold from Farms, Wisconsin, 1964-72

Year	Manufacturing grade milk sold to 1/					Market (Grade A) milk sold to			Total
	Cheese factories	Creameries	Condenseries	Varied products	Total	Quality handlers 2/	Federal handlers	Total	
Million pounds									
1964	5,755	908	170	4,008	10,841	749	7,039	7,788	18,629
1965	6,161	1,131	122	3,036	10,450	829	6,859	7,688	18,138
1966	6,296	900	163	2,646	10,005	1,831	5,690	7,521	17,526
1967	6,450	998	162	2,338	9,948	1,225	6,388	7,613	17,561
1968	6,382	894	162	2,005	9,443	993	7,155	8,148	17,591
1969	6,298	903	142	1,201	8,544	1,014	7,899	8,913	17,457
1970	6,704	619	63	803	8,189	972	8,695	9,667	17,856
1971	6,765	564	—	725	8,054	1,132	9,119	10,251	18,305
1972	6,638	385	—	759	7,782	1,057	10,240	11,297	19,079

1/Includes milk equivalent of farm separated cream. 2/Regulated by State or Municipal Boards of Health and includes milk sold directly to consumers.

WHOLESALE CHEDDAR CHEESE PRICE UP AGAIN

Wholesale prices of cheddar cheese in 40 pound blocks increased for the fourth consecutive month at Wisconsin primary markets from May to June. Cheddar cheese averaged 67½ cents a pound for June, up more than 1 cent from May and almost 10 cents above a year ago.

Wholesale prices of Swiss cheese, Wisconsin State Brand, averaged 81½ cents a pound during June. This was the same as May but 9 cents higher than June 1972.

The 92-score butter price at New York averaged 61.92 cents a pound in June, slightly under the previous month and nearly 7 cents below last year.

Wholesale Dairy Prices

Commodity	June 1972	May 1973	June 1973 1/
Butter, 92-score, New York, pound	68.75¢	61.99¢	61.92¢
Cheese, Cheddars, Wisconsin primary markets, 40 lb. blocks, pound 2/	57.99¢	66.68¢	67.75¢
Cheese, Swiss, Wisconsin State Brand, block pound 2/	72.50¢	81.50¢	81.50¢
Evaporated milk, North Central States, case, 48-14½ oz. cans, range	\$7.70-9.08	\$8.80-10.25	\$ -- --
Nonfat dry milk solids, spray, Chicago area, pound	31.37¢	45.20¢	45.24¢

1/Preliminary estimates. 2/Selling prices, f.o.b. at Wisconsin assembly points.

LESS BUTTER BUT MORE CHEESE MADE IN MAY

Production of butter in the Nation during May remained below a year ago but output of cheese was higher. The 100 million pounds of butter churned in May were down 15 percent from last year. Wisconsin creameries made 8 percent less butter in May than a year ago and Minnesota showed a decline of 18 percent. Iowa and all other states were down 16 percent in butter production during May compared with a year earlier. Butter production in the Nation has been under a year ago since March 1972.

Total cheese production in the Nation during May was up 4 percent from the previous year. All varieties showed increases with Italian up 8 percent, Brick and Muenster 15 percent, Swiss 4 percent, American 2 percent, and all other cheese 21 percent. Wisconsin cheese factories produced 74½

million pounds of American cheese in May, up 2 percent from May 1972. Although Missouri's output of American cheese in May was 23 percent below last year, Minnesota had a gain of 22 percent. All other states manufactured about the same amount of American cheese in May as a year ago.

Production of cottage cheese curd in the Nation during May showed little change from the previous year but output of creamed cottage cheese declined 1 percent. Ice cream production in the Nation for May was down 2 percent from a year earlier.

Current Dairy Products Estimates

Item and area	May 1972	May 1973	Jan.-May 1973	Change from last year	
				May	Jan.-May
1,000 pounds					
BUTTER					
Wisconsin	22,130	20,450	91,020	- 8	- 3
Minnesota	28,339	23,200	105,475	- 18	- 21
Iowa	8,960	7,500	32,650	- 16	- 18
Other states	58,424	49,160	236,072	- 16	- 11
United States	117,853	100,256	465,217	- 15	- 13
CHEESE, AMERICAN					
Wisconsin	72,820	74,500	321,150	+ 2	+ 3
Minnesota	17,596	21,470	97,350	+ 22	+ 16
Missouri	10,991	8,500	30,300	- 23	- 17
Other states	67,155	67,268	260,525	n. c.	- 2
United States	168,562	171,738	709,325	+ 2	+ 2
CHEESE, MISCELLANEOUS					
United States					
Swiss	15,814	16,491	76,170	+ 4	+ 7
Brick and Muenster	4,899	5,645	29,029	+ 15	+ 2
Italian	47,245	51,000	227,214	+ 8	+ 3
All other	13,687	16,581	81,681	+ 21	+ 8
Total	81,645	89,717	414,094	+ 10	+ 4
ALL CHEESE					
United States	250,207	261,455	1,123,419	+ 4	+ 2
OTHER PRODUCTS					
Cottage Cheese					
United States					
Curd 1/	72,230	72,058	347,350	n. c.	+ 3
Creamed 2/	92,397	91,827	442,704	- 1	+ 1
1,000 gallons					
Ice Cream					
Wisconsin	1,698	1,300	6,680	- 23	- 12
Illinois	3,766	4,150	18,350	+ 10	+ 14
Iowa	708	660	3,000	- 7	- 2
Michigan	2,905	2,915	14,785	n. c.	+ 12
Minnesota	2,684	2,630	12,170	- 2	+ 6
Other states	61,341	56,221	255,144	- 8	+ 1
United States	69,336	67,876	310,129	- 2	+ 2

1/Includes cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese with a milkfat content of less than 4 percent. 2/Includes cheese with a milkfat content of 4 to 19 percent.

BUTTER STOCKS DOWN NEARLY A FOURTH

Cold storage stocks of butter in the Nation at the end of June were 23 percent below a year ago. Butter stocks amounted to slightly over 150½ million pounds on June 30, a decline of 45 million pounds from a year earlier and more than 84 million pounds under two years ago. The Government owned 100 million pounds of butter in cold storage at the end of June, down 35 percent from last year.

Total cheese stocks of 380 million pounds in cold storage on June 30 were 1 percent higher than the previous year. Stocks of Swiss cheese were up 49 percent and supplies of American cheese showed a gain of 2 percent. All other cheese stocks in cold storage at the end of June were 12 percent below a year ago. American cheese stocks amounted to 314 million pounds on June 30. Of this total, the Government held only 268,000 pounds compared with 1,645,000 pounds a year earlier.

Cold Storage Stocks of Butter and Cheese

Commodity	June 30, 1971	June 30, 1972	June 30, 1973	Change from last year
1,000 pounds				
UNITED STATES				
Butter	235,073	195,934	150,676	- 23
Cheese, American	296,402	307,789	314,367	+ 2
Cheese, Swiss	10,614	8,926	13,341	+ 49
Cheese, all other	64,328	59,579	52,689	- 12
Cheese, total	371,344	376,294	380,397	+ 1
WISCONSIN				
Butter	11,989	9,282	10,583	+ 14
Cheese, American	174,370	184,082	200,023	+ 9
GOVERNMENT STOCKS*				
Butter	201,658	153,351	100,163	- 35
Cheese, American	2,521	1,645	268	- 84

*Included in above totals.

Manufacturers' Stocks of Other Dairy Products United States

Commodity	May 31, 1971	May 31, 1972	May 31, 1973	Change from last year
1,000 pounds				
Dried whole milk	8,006	6,079	5,077	- 16
Dried skim milk	136,151	98,520	76,695	- 22
Dried buttermilk	7,079	6,013	4,958	- 18
Condensed milk and evaporated milk (case goods) 1/ ..	103,966	107,980	85,436	- 21

1/Combined to avoid disclosing individual plant operations.

JUNE BUTTER PRODUCTION COULD BE DOWN A FIFTH

Weekly estimates of butter production in the Nation for June indicate churnings could be a fifth less than a year earlier. Output of butter in May was down 15 percent and in the first five months of this year was 13 percent below the comparable period last year. Wisconsin's butter production in June may be about 14 percent under a year ago. Creameries in the State churned 8 percent less butter in May than last year and output from January through May was down 3 percent.

According to weekly estimates, production of American cheese in the Nation during June will be 2 percent under the previous year, the same decline as shown in the first five months of 1973. Output of American cheese in Wisconsin during June could be 3 percent lower than last year after showing an increase of 3 percent from January through May.

Recent Changes in Butter and Cheese Output

Periods	Butter			American Cheese		
	United States		Wisconsin	United States		Wisconsin
	Production 1973	Change from last year	Change from last year	Production 1973	Change from last year	Change from last year
May	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent
May	100,256	- 15	- 8	171,738	+ 2	+ 2
Jan.-May ..	465,217	- 13	- 3	709,325	+ 2	+ 3
Weeks ending						
June 7 ..	22,450	- 18	- 15	40,650	- 2	- 4
June 14 ..	20,600	- 21	- 13	40,450	- 3	- 4
June 21 ..	19,900	- 19	- 15	39,500	- 2	- 3
June 28 ..	19,200	- 21	- 14	38,750	- 2	- 2
Total	82,150	- 20	xxx	159,350	- 2	xxx

JULY CROP REPORT

Warm temperatures in the first half of June and the first half of July were helpful for development of crops in Wisconsin but rainfall was below normal after being well above normal in April and May. The drier weather in June did allow farmers to complete their delayed spring planting of crops. Because of the widespread planting dates this year, crops were in various stages of development as of mid-July.

As of July 15th, corn height in Wisconsin averaged 34 inches. This was 3 inches more than the average of the last ten years for that date but was 6 inches less than in 1972 when heavy rains in July were boosting corn growth. Early corn had excellent growth and was beginning to tassel. Late corn also was coming on fast but was in need of more moisture as leaves were curling on light soils. Acreage planted to corn in Wisconsin for 1973 was estimated at 3.2 million acres, an increase of 5 percent from 1972 and just slightly under the record acreage planted in 1971.

A small amount of second crop hay was being harvested by July 15th on those farms where the first crop was cut early. Second crop hay had a good regrowth if the first crop was cut early in June but the later cuttings have not come back as well because of a lack of moisture. A few farmers in the north and east were finishing up first crop haying as of mid-July. Quantity of the first crop turned out better than expected after growth had been slowed by cool temperatures in April and May. Quality of first crop hay was reduced by the abundance of grass and weeds where alfalfa was killed out from persistently wet weather last fall and this spring, a delayed oat harvest in 1972, and some winterkill. Harvested acreage of hay in Wisconsin for 1973 is expected to be up 4 percent from 1972.

Wheat, rye, and barley were ripening fast by the middle of July. Early oats was starting to change color also but the late oats was far behind as some did not get planted until June. The oat crop varies considerably because of the planting dates that ranged from March to June. Early oats did well but late oats is spotty. The oat crop may have light weight this

year due to hot weather and a shortage of moisture when heads were filling. Straw will be short again this year on most farms. Plant pathologists reported a significant increase in the prevalence and severity of crown rust on the oat crop in July. Some oats was going into silos by mid-July. Based on crop conditions as of July 1, the yield of oats in Wisconsin for 1973 was estimated at 53 bushels per acre. This would be 2 bushels under last year and the lowest since a similar yield in 1966. Acreage planted to oats was estimated at 1½ million acres, down 4 percent from 1972 and the smallest on record. Harvested acreage was expected to total 1.4 million acres, an increase of 4 percent from the previous year when a substantial acreage had to be abandoned due to poor harvesting weather.

A record high of 236,000 acres of soybeans are expected to be harvested in Wisconsin for 1973. This would be an increase of 63 percent from 1972. Soybeans were growing good

as of mid-July but like other crops were in need of additional moisture. Tobacco plants were also making favorable progress. The early pea harvest was a disappointment as hot, dry weather at blossoming time reduced yields. Potatoes were doing fine as of the middle of July with harvesting of early potatoes expected to be underway soon. Sweet corn and other vegetable crops were in generally good condition. The cherry crop will be short this year and the apple crop will be down from last year. A good strawberry crop was harvested during June and early July.

Pasture conditions began to decline in the heat and dryness of June and July. Soil moisture as of mid-July was reported as 60 percent short and 40 percent adequate. The top soil was quite dry in most of the State and rain would be welcomed.

Crop Summary of Wisconsin for July 1, 1973

Crop	Acreage			Yield per acre			Unit	Production			
	1971	1972	1973 (prelimi- nary)	1971	1972	1973 (prelimi- nary)		1971	1972	1973 (prelimi- nary)	
Thousands						Thousands					
FIELD CROPS											
Corn for grain	2,304	2,143	2,150	98.0	95.0	1/	Bu.	225,792	203,585	1/	
Oats	1,535	1,350	1,400	62.0	55.0	53.0	Bu.	95,170	74,250	74,200	
Barley	28	22	24	55.0	45.0	45.0	Bu.	1,540	990	1,080	
Rye	12	10	9	24.0	20.0	22.0	Bu.	288	200	198	
Wheat (all)	35	29	30	37.5	31.1	35.0	Bu.	1,314	901	1,050	
Winter	22	20	18	42.0	32.0	39.0	Bu.	924	640	702	
Spring	13	9	12	30.0	29.0	29.0	Bu.	390	261	348	
Soybeans for beans	128	145	236	23.5	28.0	1/	Bu.	3,008	4,060	1/	
Potatoes (Fall)	51.5	45.5	—	256	243	—	Cwt.	13,183	11,075	—	
Tobacco (all)	10.6	10.8	9.5	2,125	1,727	1/	Lb.	22,525	18,650	1/	
Type 54	5.3	5.0	4.5	2,270	1,700	1/	Lb.	12,031	8,500	1/	
Type 55	5.3	5.8	5.0	1,980	1,750	1/	Lb.	10,494	10,150	1/	
HAY AND FORAGE											
Hay (all)	3,987	3,920	4,070	2.78	2.60	1/	Ton	11,083	10,203	1/	
Alfalfa and mixture	3,017	2,950	3,090	2.95	2.85	1/	Ton	8,900	8,408	1/	
All other	970	970	980	2.25	1.85	1/	Ton	2,183	1,795	1/	
VEGETABLE CROPS											
Carrots 2/	1.6	1.7	1.6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cabbage 2/	3.2	3.8	1.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Lettuce 2/	1.6	.9	.8	220	210	—	Cwt.	352	189	—	
Onions, commercial 2/	1.6	1.5	1.4	235	250	—	Cwt.	376	375	—	
For processing:											
Green lima beans	5.3	6.4	8.1*	1.25	.82	—	Ton 3/	6.7	5.3	—	
Peas	125.1	122.2	130.1	1.17	1.34	1.10	Ton 3/	146.4	163.8	143.1	
Snap beans	50.1	45.5	63.6*	2.59	2.67	—	Ton	129.8	121.5	—	
Sweet corn	117.9	113.5	132.3*	4.57	4.54	—	Ton	538.8	515.3	—	
Beets for canning	5.8	4.5	7.7*	11.66	14.00	—	Ton	67.7	63.0	—	
FRUITS, ETC.											
Apples, commercial	—	—	—	—	—	—	Lb.	65,000	65,000	55,000	
Tart cherries	—	—	—	—	—	—	Ton	8.4	4.6	3.0	

*Planted acreage. 1/Estimates released on August 10. 2/Summer acreage. 3/Shelled.

WISCONSIN FARM PRODUCT PRICES UP

Higher prices for most livestock, poultry, and crops resulted in a 2 percent gain in the index of prices received for Wisconsin farm products as of mid-June. At 461 percent of the 1910-14 base, the index of prices received was 78 points (20 percent) above June 15, 1972.

Steers and heifers averaged \$44.70 a hundredweight in June, up \$2.00 from May and \$11.20 higher than a year earlier. Slaughter cows, at \$33.80 a hundredweight for June, were unchanged from May but \$8.20 above last year.

Hog prices moved higher in June after holding steady in May. The average of \$36.40 for mid-June was \$1.80 more than May and \$11.00 greater than on June 15, 1972.

Sheep and lamb prices remained stable from May to June. Sheep averaged \$9.50 a hundredweight in June, up \$3.50 from the previous year. Lambs at \$32.00 a hundredweight for June were \$2.50 higher than last year. The mid-June wool price of 50 cents a pound increased 5 cents from a month earlier and was 21 cents above June 1972.

Turkey prices rose to 34 cents a pound liveweight as of mid-June. This was the highest turkey price since July 1955. Turkey prices have risen 10 cents a pound since January of this year. The mid-June average was 4 cents more than May and 13 cents above a year earlier.

Eggs averaged 48 cents a dozen as of June 15, a gain of 2 cents from a month earlier and 26 cents higher than June 1972. This was the highest price ever for eggs in the month of June.

Corn prices rose very sharply from mid-May to mid-June. Corn averaged \$1.84 a bushel on June 15, up 36 cents from the previous month and 70 cents greater than last year. The last time corn exceeded the June level was in September 1948 when prices averaged \$1.89 a bushel.

Oats reached 90 cents a bushel as of June 15, the highest since January 1952. Oats increased 5 cents from May to June and was 19 cents more than June last year.

Soybeans advanced rapidly in price from May to June. The mid-June average of \$10.30 a bushel was \$2.40 more than a month earlier and \$7.05 above a year ago. Since January of this year, soybeans have risen \$6.45 a bushel.

Prices for baled alfalfa hay declined \$4.00 a ton from May to June. The mid-June average of \$27.50 a ton was \$4.50 higher than last year but \$9.50 below the record peak reached in January of this year.

Prices Received by Wisconsin Farmers

Commodity	Unit	June 15, 1971	June 15, 1972	May 15, 1973	June 15, 1973
Dollars					
Milk cows.....	Head	410.00	460.00	570.00	580.00
Steers and heifers	Cwt.	28.20	33.50	42.70	44.70
Cows	Cwt.	21.50	25.60	33.80	33.80
Calves	Cwt.	42.20	49.00	62.00	68.00
Hogs	Cwt.	17.90	25.40	34.60	36.40
Sheep	Cwt.	5.70	6.00	9.50	9.50
Lambs	Cwt.	26.70	29.50	32.00	32.00
Wool	Lb.	.23	.29	.45	.50
Chickens 1/	Lb.	.075	.075	.150	.140
Turkeys	Lb.	.220	.210	.300	.340
Eggs	Doz.	.230	.220	.460	.480
Corn	Bu.	1.49	1.14	1.48	1.84
Oats	Bu.	.76	.71	.85	.90
Soybeans	Bu.	2.93	3.25	7.90	10.30
Alfalfa hay, baled	Ton	21.00	23.00	31.50	27.50

1/Excludes broilers.

FARM LABOR FORCE NEARLY EQUAL TO A YEAR AGO

The number of workers on Wisconsin farms during the survey week of June 17-23 totaled 194,000. This was only 1,000 less than the comparable week in 1972. Family workers

Farm Workers and Wages Wisconsin and United States

Item	Wisconsin		United States	
	1972	1973	1972	1973
	June			
Farm Workers 1/				
Hired	25	23	1,608,200	1,632,300
Family	170	171	3,491,200	3,545,100
Total	195	194	5,099,400	5,177,400
July 1				
	1972	1973	1972	1973
Wage Rates 2/				
By the month				
With house	\$ 386.00	\$ 411.00	\$ 369.00	\$ 409.00
With board and room	291.00	310.00	276.00	313.00
By the day				
With board and room	12.70	13.70	12.40	13.60
Without board and room	15.70	17.20	13.10	14.40
By the hour				
No board and room	1.87	2.05	1.85	2.02

1/Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. 2/Average rates paid on crop and livestock reporters' farms or in their localities for arrangements specified above.

numbered 171,000, an increase of 1,000 from a year earlier but the hired labor force at 23,000 was 2,000 below June last year.

Wages paid to hired help continued above a year earlier. Wage rates as of July 1 averaged \$411.00 a month with a house and \$310.00 with board and room. Rates with a house were up \$25.00 from a year ago while rates with board and room increased \$19.00.

Hired workers employed by the day were receiving an average of \$13.70 with board and room and \$17.20 without board and room. These rates were \$1.00 and \$1.50 respectively above last year. Hourly rates averaged \$2.05 without board or room, a gain of 18 cents from July 1, 1972.

MEAT STOCKS REMAIN UNDER LAST YEAR

Stocks of meats in the Nation's cold storage facilities at the end of June remained below a year ago as output of pork continued lower. Total meat stocks amounted to 675 million pounds on June 30, down 5 percent from a year earlier. Although beef stocks were up 27 percent, the supply of pork in cold storage was 21 percent under June 30, 1972.

There were 323½ million pounds of beef in cold storage at the end of June, a decline of 14 million pounds from a month earlier but about 68 million pounds above last year. Pork stocks totaled 253½ million pounds on June 30, down almost 5½ million pounds from the previous month and 66 million pounds below a year ago. Stocks of frozen pork bellies amounted to 48½ million pounds at the end of June, a decline of 12 percent from a month earlier and 54 percent less than June 30, 1972.

Cold Storage Stocks of Meat

United States

Commodity	June 30, 1971	June 30, 1972	May 31, 1973	June 30, 1973	Change from last year
1,000 pounds					
Beef:					
Frozen	289,418	246,315	325,810	312,363	+ 27
In cure and cured	7,289	9,415	11,761	11,153	+ 18
Total	296,707	255,730	337,571	323,516	+ 27
Pork:					
Frozen	454,868	301,448	243,780	235,971	- 22
In cooler	22,384	18,201	15,184	17,543	- 4
Total	477,252	319,649	258,964	253,514	- 21
Other meats and meat products:					
Veal, frozen	9,157	9,309	11,833	11,378	+ 22
Lamb and mutton, frozen	22,848	19,277	15,163	15,164	- 21
Canned meats in cooler:					
Hams	66,816	85,333	60,839	59,001	- 31
Other meats	18,011	20,756	15,176	12,614	- 39
Total, all meats	890,791	710,054	699,546	675,187	- 5

RED MEAT PRODUCTION ABOVE LAST YEAR

Production of red meat in Wisconsin's commercial slaughter plants during May was up 4 percent from a year ago. A 10 percent increase in output of beef offset a 3 percent decline in pork production.

Cattle slaughter in May numbered 97,500, a gain of 7,500 from May 1972. Liveweight of cattle butchered in May

averaged 1,128 pounds, 13 pounds heavier than a year earlier.

Calf slaughter for May was a record low. Only 12,500 calves were slaughtered for veal in May, down 4,600 from the previous year. Calf liveweight averaged a record high of 226 pounds for May, a substantial increase of 47 pounds from last year. The sheep and lamb kill of 200 during May was the same as a year ago.

There were 274,000 hogs butchered in May, a decline of 8,000 from May 1972. Average liveweight of hogs at 240 pounds was unchanged from the previous year.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter

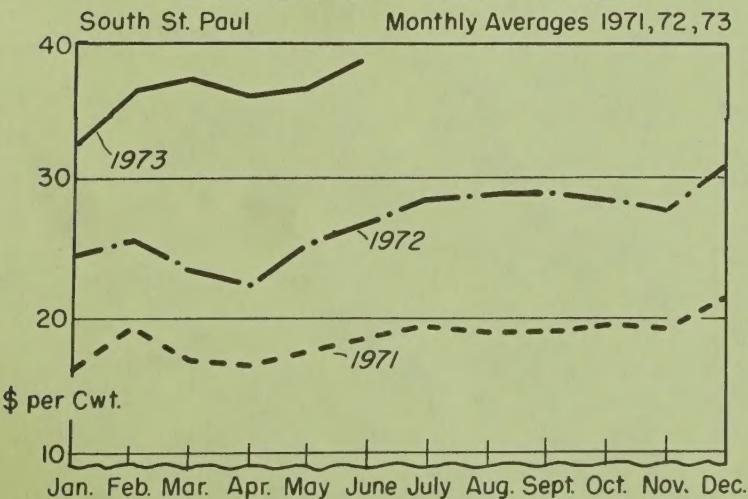
Area	Number		Liveweight		
	May		Change from last year	May	
	1972	1973		1972	1973
		1,000 head		Million pounds	
Cattle			Percent		
Wisconsin	90.0	97.5	+ 8	100.4	110.0
United States 1/ ..	3,117.7	2,947.6	- 5	3,219.3	3,041.0
Calves					
Wisconsin	17.1	12.5	- 27	3.1	2.8
United States 1/ ..	235.9	167.9	- 29	62.8	48.5
Hogs					
Wisconsin	282.0	274.0	- 3	67.7	65.8
United States 1/ ..	7,323.8	7,039.1	- 4	1,765.3	1,702.4
Sheep and lambs					
Wisconsin2	.2	n. c.	.019	.019
United States 1/ ..	835.5	884.6	- 6	89.3	97.7

1/Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

BARROWS AND GILTS REACH RECORD HIGH AT ST. PAUL

Prices of barrows and gilts at the St. Paul market reached a record high of \$38.75 a hundredweight for June. This was \$2.18 more than in May and \$12.10 above June 1972. Prices of barrows and gilts at St. Paul increased each week during June and by the end of the month were averaging nearly \$40.00 a hundredweight.

BARROW and GILT PRICES



STEER PRICES UP IN JUNE

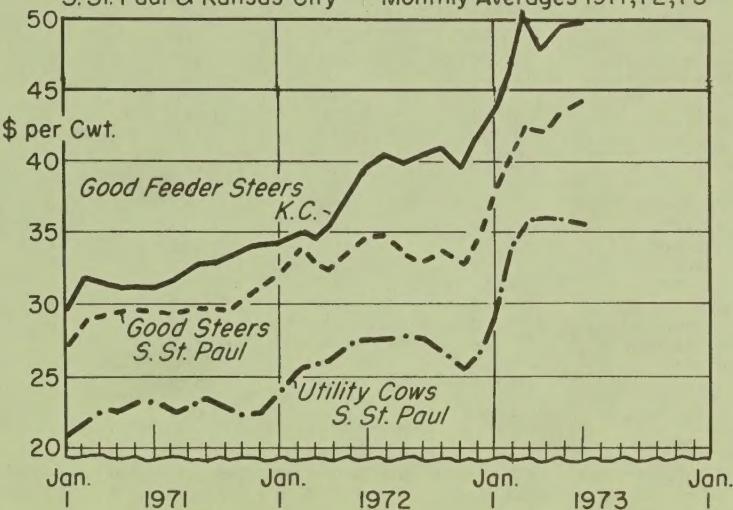
Prices of good grade feeder steers at Kansas City and fed steers at St. Paul increased from May to June and were well above a year ago. Good grade feeder steers weighing between

600-700 pounds averaged almost \$50.00 a hundredweight at the Kansas City market in June. This was a gain of 26 cents from May and was more than \$10.00 above June 1972.

Good grade fed steers weighing between 900-1100 pounds averaged \$44.28 a hundredweight at St. Paul during June, up \$1.01 from the previous month and \$9.41 higher than last year. Utility cows at St. Paul averaged \$35.29 a hundredweight for June, a decline of 38 cents from May but \$7.55 above a year earlier.

BEEF CATTLE PRICES

S. St. Paul & Kansas City Monthly Averages 1971,72,73



FEWER CATTLE ON FEED IN WISCONSIN

Cattle feeders in Wisconsin had 115,000 cattle and calves on feed July 1, a decline of 4 percent from a year ago. The 23 major feeding states had 2 percent more cattle on feed than on July 1, 1972.

Wisconsin farmers placed 38,000 cattle and calves on feed during April through June, down 7 percent from that quarter last year. Marketings of fed cattle in the past quarter numbered 52,000, an increase of 1,000 from the April through June marketings in 1972.

Of the 115,000 cattle and calves on feed July 1 in Wisconsin, a total of 93,000 were steers and steer calves, 21,000 were heifers and heifer calves, and 1,000 were cows and others. The lightest weight group of less than 500 pounds and the heaviest weight group of 1,100 pounds and over had more cattle and calves on feed July 1 than a year ago but the other weight groups were down.

Wisconsin cattle feeders plan to market 52,000 finished cattle during the July through September quarter. These intentions would be 3,000 fewer than were marketed in the third quarter of 1972.

Cattle and calves on feed July 1 in the North Central States, including Wisconsin, were 1 percent above a year earlier. Iowa, the leading feeding state in that region, was up 3 percent while Nebraska had a gain of 2 percent and Kansas increased 9 percent from July 1, 1972.

The 10 Western states had 3 percent more cattle and calves on feed July 1 than a year ago. Texas, the largest feeding state in the Nation, was up 10 percent from last year. Cali-

fornia showed a gain of 1 percent but Colorado had 7 percent fewer cattle on feed than on July 1, 1972.

**Cattle and Calves on Feed by Quarters,
July 1, 1972, April 1, and July 1, 1973 1/**

State	July 1, 1972	April 1, 1973	July 1, 1973	Change from last year
1,000 head				Percent
Pennsylvania ..	54	79	58	+ 7
Ohio	210	277	208	- 1
Indiana	257	253	215	- 16
Illinois	485	560	450	- 7
Michigan	170	230	185	+ 9
Wisconsin	120	129	115	- 4
Minnesota	443	467	427	- 4
Iowa	1,699	2,022	1,750	+ 3
Missouri	240	270	210	- 12
North Dakota ..	45	50	46	+ 2
South Dakota ..	275	345	300	+ 9
Nebraska	1,442	1,520	1,471	+ 2
Kansas	1,130	1,230	1,230	+ 9
N. C. States ..	6,570	7,432	6,665	+ 1
Oklahoma	298	274	268	- 10
Texas	2,119	2,259	2,335	+ 10
Montana	130	140	122	- 6
Idaho	184	192	182	- 1
Colorado	1,020	946	950	- 7
New Mexico	212	230	245	+ 16
Arizona	542	614	576	+ 6
Washington	165	180	160	- 3
Oregon	52	60	50	- 4
California	1,165	1,046	1,179	+ 1
Western States	5,887	5,941	6,067	+ 3
23 States ...	12,457	13,373	12,732	+ 2

1/Cattle and calves on feed are animals fattened for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates which are expected to produce a carcass that will grade good or better.

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